

(b) bleaching the chemical cellulose pulp from step (a) having the reduced kappa number and the reduced hexenuronic acid content in at least one bleaching stage with peroxide. --

REMARKS

Another evidentiary declaration will be submitted in this case therefore it is requested that Action be held in abeyance until that time.

Also enclosed herewith, and listed on the attached form PTO-1449, is a paper from Marechal from the Journal of Wood Chemistry and Technology, 13:2 (1993) pages 261-281. This paper -- as indicated in the cover letter from Lachanel makes clear -- "has never been referred to by anybody". This is undoubtedly because Marechal did not verify how his acidic treatment could be coupled with the bleaching of kraft pulps. The yields reported by Marechal were 94.1-96.2% on pulp. Such low yields would mean that any possible savings in bleaching chemical costs (not shown by Marechal) would be lost due to a reduced income from the pulp, because the prices of cellulose pulps are based on weight. In addition to the low yield Marechal points out that "as expected the tear index was largely decreased". The tear index was, indeed, only half the tear indices of the referenced pulps, as is made clear in figure 1 attached hereto. The pulp yield and strength as they appear in the paper of Marechal are completely discouraging to anyone who would consider the acidic treatment of Marechal as a possible stage in a pulp bleaching sequence.

Vuorinen et al
Serial No. To be Assigned

Early passage of the subject application to issue is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By:



Robert A. Vanderhye
Reg. No. 27,076

RAV:eaw
1100 North Glebe Road, 8th Floor
Arlington, VA 22201-4714
Telephone: (703) 816-4000
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100